Listing of Claims

1.   **(Proposed Amendment)** A method comprising:

a digital processing system receiving a request for a function space, the digital processing system comprising availability information for a plurality of function spaces at a plurality of properties and a set of pricing rules, the request comprising a plurality of criteria;

determining an availability of the requested function space based upon some or all of the availability information and one or more of the plurality of criteria;

determining that the requested function space satisfying the one or more of the plurality of criteria is unavailable;

automatically providing a real-time price quote for the requested function space based on the set of pricing rules in spite of having determined that the requested function space satisfying the one or more of the plurality of criteria is unavailable;

receiving an acceptance of the price quote for the requested function space from a user; and

establishing a reservation for the requested function space, wherein, if said function space is unavailable, said reservation comprises an overbooking.

2.   (Cancelled)

3.   **(Proposed Amendment)** The method of claim 1 wherein the plurality of ~~remote~~ properties are individual hotels of a hotel chain.

4.   (Cancelled)

5.   (Cancelled)

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6.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 further comprising:

receiving a rejection of the price quote for the requested function space from a user; and

providing alternatives to one or more of the plurality of criteria in real-time.

7.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 6 wherein establishing a reservation for the requested function space includes allocating a function space of a specified category, the category specified by one or more category-related criteria included in the plurality of criteria of the request.

8.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 7 wherein the category-related criteria include one or more criteria selected from the group consisting of attendance, event type, setup styles and area.

9.   (Proposed Amendment) A machine-readable medium that provides executable instructions, which when executed by a processor, cause the processor to perform a method, the method comprising:

receiving a request for a function space, the request comprising a plurality of criteria;

determining an availability of the requested function space based upon some or all of availability information for a plurality of function spaces at a plurality of properties and one or more of the plurality of criteria;

determining that the requested function space satisfying the one or more of the plurality of criteria is unavailable;

automatically providing a real-time price quote for the requested function space based on a set of pricing rules in spite of having determined that the requested function space satisfying the one or more of the plurality of criteria is unavailable;

receiving an acceptance of the price quote for the requested function space from a user; and

establishing a reservation for the requested function space, wherein, if said function space is unavailable, said reservation comprises an overbooking.

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10.   (Cancelled)

11.   **(Proposed Amendment)** The machine-readable medium of claim 9 wherein the plurality of ~~remote~~ properties are individual hotels of a hotel chain.

12.   (Cancelled)

13.   (Cancelled)

14.   (Previously Presented) The machine-readable medium of claim 9, wherein the method performed by the processor further comprising:

receiving a rejection of the price quote for the requested function space from a user; and

providing alternatives to one or more of the plurality of criteria in real-time.

15.   (Previously Presented) The machine-readable medium of claim 14 wherein establishing a reservation for the requested function space includes allocating a function space of a specified category, the category specified by one or more category-related criteria included in the plurality of criteria of the request.

16.   (Previously Presented) The machine-readable medium of claim 15 wherein the category-related criteria include one or more criteria selected from the group consisting of attendance, event type, setup styles and area.

17.   **(Proposed Amendment)** A system comprising:

a central digital processing system having a memory device,

the memory device having stored thereon

availability information for a plurality of function spaces at a plurality of

properties, and

a set of pricing rules;

the central digital processing system being configured to provide an availability

determination for a function space

based upon some or all of the availability information, and

in response to receiving a request for the function space; and

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the central digital processing system being further configured to

> **determine that the requested function space satisfying the one or more**
>
> **of the plurality of criteria is unavailable,**

automatically generate a real-time price quote for the requested function
space based on the set of pricing rules in spite of said availability
determination by said central digital processing system indicating
that the requested function space is unavailable,

receive an acceptance of the real-time price quote for the requested
function space, and

establish a reservation for the requested function space, wherein, if said
function space is unavailable, said reservation comprises an
overbooking.

18.   (Cancelled)

19.   **(Proposed Amendment)** The system of claim 17 wherein the plurality of ~~remote~~
properties are individual hotels of a hotel chain.

20.   (Cancelled)

21.   (Cancelled)

22.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 17, wherein said central digital
processing system is further configured to:

receive a rejection of the real-time price quote for the requested function space;
and

provide an alternative to said request in real-time in response to said rejection.

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23.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 22 wherein said central digital processing system is configured to establish a reservation for the requested function space by allocating a function space of a specified category, the category specified by one or more category-related criteria included in the request.

24.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 23 wherein the category-related criteria include one or more criteria selected from the group consisting of attendance, event type, setup styles and area.

25.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the plurality of criteria includes criteria selected from a group of criteria consisting of date, day-part and supplementary sales.

26.   (Previously Presented) The machine-readable medium of claim 9 wherein the plurality of criteria includes criteria selected from a group of criteria consisting of date, day-part and supplementary sales.

27.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 17, wherein said request includes a plurality of criteria selected from a group of criteria consisting of date, day-part and supplementary sales.

28.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

        dividing said one or more function spaces into at least one specific space and at least one category space; and

        concurrently evaluating said at least one specific space and said at least one category space as part of said determining said availability of the requested function space.

29.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 28, further comprising:

        displaying a hierarchical relationship between said at least one category space and said at least one specific space.

30.   (Cancelled)

31.   (Cancelled)

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32.   (Cancelled)

33.   **(Proposed Amendment)**   A method, the method comprising:

a digital processing system receiving a request for a function space, the digital processing system comprising availability information for a plurality of function spaces at a plurality of properties in a common reservation table and a set of pricing rules, the request comprising a plurality of criteria and the pricing rules including pricing based on a time of year;

determining an availability of the requested function space based upon some or all of the availability information and one or more of the plurality of criteria, wherein said determining comprises determining said availability on a quality-specific basis and said availability is determined contingent on a threshold revenue for the space comprising expected food and drink revenue associated with the request;

automatically providing a real-time price quote for the requested function space based on the set of pricing rules in spite of having determined that the requested function space satisfying the one or more of the plurality of criteria is unavailable, wherein the price quote includes a pricing discount based on the attendance of the event;

receiving an acceptance of the price quote for the requested function space from a user;

establishing a reservation for the requested function space as category space allocated for a length of time including setup and teardown for a selected setup style and attendance, wherein, if said function space is unavailable, said reservation comprises an overbooking; and

converting, after a delay ~~to allow for the sale of additional reservations~~, said reservation for the requested function space as category space to a reservation for specific space, wherein the specific space is selected from a set comprising an indivisible space and a configured space of combined indivisible spaces.

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